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BUILDING INDUSTRY GROWS IN EUROPEAN USSR

BRICK PLANTS EXPAND PRODUCTION -- Leninskoye Znanya, No 180, 11 Sep 49

During the last few years, the Karelo-Finnish construction materials industry has expanded considerably. Brick production has increased 25 percent over the 1940 production level. However, the Ministry of Construction Materials Industry Karelo-Finnish SSR is not meeting state requirements to fulfill the plan not only in terms of value, but also for assortment of goods. Enterprises of this ministry failed to complete the state plan, both for the second quarter and for the month of July. According to data of the ministry, the August gross-production plan was exceeded, but a large number of products provided in the plan were lacking.

The Letnerechenskiy enterprises, including the plant for prefabricated housing construction and the brick plant, have consistently failed to complete their production plans. The construction of prefabricated houses, the main type of product, is being neglected, while the plant produces a type of small lath (tarnyye doshchechki) which is not even included in the production plan. During the first 6 months of 1949, the plant was supposed to build 9,360 square meters of housing. However, only 4,970 square meters were built in a 7-month period.

The Letnerechenskiy Brick Plant has also failed to fulfill its production plans. The reason for this is poor labor organization and insufficient utilization of productive capacities. Instead of 16,000 bricks, one press produces not more than 11,000-12,000 bricks per shift. In the first 6 months, the plant had about 1,500 hours of idle time and during this period production was short 2 million bricks. The quality of the bricks produced was very low. The same plant also failed to meet the plan for production of tiles. The August plan provided for 70,000 tiles, while the plant produced only 17,000; of this number only 2,000 were fit for use.

The Ministry of Construction Materials Industry gives very little help to individual enterprises. Brick plants have been asking for help in obtaining

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tools which are badly needed; but the Technical Supply Department of the Ministry has ignored such requests. Plant directors are forced to go to Petrozavodsk enterprises to obtain such tools.

Six months ago, Minister Rozhanovskiy announced the possibility of producing porous bricks. This type of brick is cheap, easy to handle and practical. It is produced in many brick plants of the country and is used successfully on construction projects. The Sulazhgorskiy Plant received an order to start production of porous bricks, but so far no progress has been made because the plant is not properly equipped for this type of production.

Leninskoye Znanya, No 174, 3 Sep 49

The Solomennoye Brick Plant, Karelo-Finnish SSR, produced 20,000 bricks above plan during August. Plant workers pledged to fulfill the year plan for brick production by 5 December and to lower production costs 5 percent. In September and October the brick plant intends to produce 10,000 bricks above plan.

Sovetskaya Latvya, No 188, 11 Aug 49

The "Spartak" Brick Plant of the Latvian Republic Ceramics Industry Trust has begun production of strip tile. The plant has installed a strip press which has a productivity of up to 5,000 pieces per shift. Drying racks and frames are being set up.

Formerly, the "Karnyni" and "Tuya" plants were the only ones in the Latvian SSR making strip tile. The Krustpils Brick Plant has begun its manufacture also, and the Kalkune Plant is preparing for the manufacture of two-grooved pressed tile.

Komsomol'skaya Pravda, No 194, 18 Aug 49

The Tsesis Plant of Construction Materials in Latvia has received an order to manufacture 600,000 special bricks for the restoration of walls and towers of the Kremlin. The plant has already shipped about 400,000 bricks of various types and sizes to Moscow.

Sovetskaya Latvya, No 211, 7 Sep 49

Enterprises of the Latvian Republic Ceramics Industry Trust are successfully introducing new machinery. The Bolderaya Plant of Construction Ceramics recently received a new grader, which replaces a large number of excavation workers. The Kalkune, Krustpils, "Spartak" and "Progress" brick plants are being equipped with new, highly productive machinery. They recently received semiautomatic machines for brick cutting. Three brick plants have just been supplied with strip presses. The Kalntsiyem Combine is making extensive use of motor-driven cars for transporting bricks and peat within the plants. This enterprise was the first to build narrow-gauge railroad tracks to all drying platforms and storage places.

Sovetskaya Litva, No 212, 8 Sep 49

Brick and tile plants of the Kaunas Construction Materials Industry Trust fulfilled the 8-month plan ahead of schedule. Output of bricks and tiles was doubled as compared with the same period of 1948. The leading enterprises of the trust, the "Gyalgaidishkis" and "Carlyava" plants, fulfilled their Five-Year Plans for production level.

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Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 175, 3 Sep 49

The Bobruysk Brick Plant No 9-a fulfilled the year plan for production of unfired bricks. The plant pledged to produce 500,000 bricks above the year plan by the end of the season.

UKRAINIAN PLANTS SUPPLY MOSCOW BUILDING INDUSTRY -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 209,
2 Sep 49

The Kharkov Construction Parts Combine is producing ceramic blocks for facing tall buildings in Moscow. This enterprise manufactures 24 different types of blocks for walls and apertures of the tall building under construction on Smolenskaya Ploshchad'.

Pravda Ukrainy, No 207, 2 Sep 49

The Steel Structures Plant imeni Molotov in Dnepropetrovsk has produced 5,700 tons of steel structures for a 25-story building under construction on Smolenskaya Ploshchad' Moscow. The plant has begun to produce steel structures for the 32-story building of Moscow State University.

Izvestiya, No 212, 8 Sep 49

The parquetry industry in L'vov Oblast is greatly developed. Parquet flooring from L'vov is sent to Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Staling and other cities. One of the oldest parquet-building enterprises in L'vov Oblast is the Kamenko-Bugskiy Plant imeni Dimitrov, which produced over 50,000 square meters of parquet in 1949. Half of this quantity was sent to construction projects in Moscow. At present the plant is mastering the production of artistic parquetry, which has a more complicated design than the ordinary kind of parquet. It will be used in the construction of multistoried buildings in Moscow.

Other parquet-building enterprises of the oblast have produced 70,000 square meters of parquet this year. There is a great demand for L'vov parquet, and steps have been taken to expand this branch of production.

PREFABRICATED HOUSING CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES -- Pravda, No 228, 16 Aug 49

Six plants for making prefabricated houses have been established in Bryansk Oblast. The Seletsk Housebuilding Combine is manufacturing eight-apartment prefabricated houses.

Izvestiya, No 200, 25 Aug 49

The first housebuilding combine in the Donbass is under construction in Yenakiyevo. The combine will produce prefabricated houses of hollow reinforced concrete and cinder blocks. The raw materials will come from the waste products of the metallurgical plant.

Sovetskaya Latvija, No 211, 7 Sep 49

The Riga Plant of Prefabricated Housing Construction has mastered the production of new two-story wooden houses. Each house consists of eight apartments.

The new prefabricated eight-apartment houses have been turned over to enterprises of the Ministry of Civilian Housing Construction and the Ministry of Local Fuel Industry.

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Sovetskaya Litva, No 211, 7 Sep 49

The Vil'nyus Woodworking Combine of the Ministry of Petroleum Industry fulfilled the 9-month production plan one month ahead of schedule. Since the beginning of 1949, several large prefabricated houses have been built above plan. The combine has done a great deal to mechanize labor processes and conserve material. Production costs have been lowered 8 percent as against the plan. During 1949, the enterprise obtained over 900,000 rubles of accumulations above plan.

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